

but, nevertheless, important. I am sure the gentleman met with the Governors when they were in town, as I did. They met on a bipartisan basis. I met with a lot of the Republican Governors and Democratic Governors together.

They are very concerned, as you know, not only about the ACA—which we talked about, which they have great concerns of the impact on their States, Republicans and Democrats, of the repeal of the Medicaid expansion, in particular, the impact it will have on them and their people—but they also are very concerned about the Marketplace Fairness Act.

That is simply, frankly, trying to protect small businesses so that they can compete, the local mom and pop store can compete with the online vendors so that everybody would have to pay the sales tax, whatever the State sales tax is. That bill, I believe, enjoys the majority support in this House. I think it has enjoyed the majority support since it passed the Senate pretty handily.

Does the gentleman know whether or not that bill is going to be considered at any point in time in the near term?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we did meet with a bipartisan group of Governors, and that was one of the discussions as well. It is not scheduled at this time, but we will continue to work on that in committee. Our hope is to be able to find a solution in committee and be able to move that forward.

Mr. HOYER. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to say to my friend, the majority leader, that I look forward to working with him. I see that he recently observed that the attorney general ought to recuse himself in dealing with issues of the relationship between the administration during the course of the campaign and Russia, which the intelligence community has said interfered in America's election.

All of us ought to be concerned about that—a foreign government interfering in our democracy; particularly, a government that is hostile to our interests; particularly, a government led by Mr. Putin, who has committed international crimes, who, contrary to international law, invaded Crimea, still holds Crimea inconsistent with international law, and has been sanctioned. Hopefully, those sanctions will stay in place.

I agree with the gentleman that, at the very least, the attorney general ought to recuse himself. I have asked him to step down.

But we need to have, Mr. Speaker, an independent bipartisan commission with subpoena power, similar to the 9/11 Commission, for the security of our country and, yes, for the confidence building for our President to see what, in fact, were the relationships between his campaign and Russia and to what extent Russia involved itself in trying to impact on the elections of the United States.

I don't have anything further to say. Unless the gentleman wants to say something, I will yield back.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

This is a matter for investigation by the House Intelligence Committee. For years, we have investigated Putin's hostile international actions.

Just so the gentleman does know, Mr. Speaker, this week, Chairman NUNES and Ranking Member SCHIFF approved the scope of their committee's inquiry into Russia's measures of targeting in the 2016 election. I support this bipartisan investigation. I have great faith that the committee will fully investigate all of the evidence and follow the facts wherever they lead.

I know the gentleman, Mr. Speaker, made comments in regards to the attorney general. Attorney General Sessions stated this morning that whenever it is appropriate, he will recuse himself. I agree with those remarks.

As far as the ongoing investigation into Russia, I would, again, direct my friend to the bipartisan effort that is underway in the House Intelligence Committee.

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Mr. HOYER. I thank the majority leader for his comments.

Let me say that I was very disappointed to learn that Mr. NUNES, at the request of the administration, talked to members of the press before the investigations have occurred, before they have heard a single witness, to say that he really thought this was not a matter that really needed careful consideration. That is not a quote. I characterized what I read his comment to mean to the press.

In addition, I understand the Department of Homeland Security was also requested, and the FBI, to talk to the press to tamp down interest in those. The American people need to be very concerned about these issues. Every Member of this Congress, a separate and coequal branch of the Government of the United States, ought to be very concerned about that.

The Bible says that the truth will set us free. And the truth will give us confidence. And the truth should be known by the American people.

The problem I have with the Intelligence Committee is that the Intelligence Committee—most of the information they gather is not available to the public. I don't know what they will do moving forward.

But we found in the 9/11 Commission a perfect example of a commission equally divided with two extraordinarily respected co-chairs that got to the bottom and made significant recommendations, most of which—almost all of which—were adopted in a bipartisan fashion by this Congress.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that we would pursue that not in lieu of the Intelligence Committee—not in lieu of

the Intelligence Committee—but in addition to.

Benghazi, we had seven committees, and you thought on your side of the aisle that wasn't enough, so you spent some \$4 million on an additional special committee to find exactly the same conclusion.

So, in this case I do not oppose the work of the Intelligence Committee, but I certainly believe the American people would expect and would want a similar bipartisan commission as they saw work on the 9/11 tragedy to give them the confidence that Russia is not in any way undermining the independence of our government or undermining the democracy that we hold so dear.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017, TO MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 4 p.m. on Monday, March 6, 2017.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BACON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

CELEBRATING THE 105TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND CANYON STATE

(Mr. BIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, on February 14, my home State of Arizona celebrated its 105th year as a member of the United States. The Grand Canyon State is an incredible State to raise a family in, to live in, and to play in.

There is so much to love about Arizona. We have over 300 days of sunshine. We enjoy the cool pines of Flagstaff; the rustic and historic towns of Prescott, Show Low, and Tombstone, which give perspective into Arizona's first days as a State; and we greatly benefit from the agricultural city and county of Yuma.

Arizona's lakes, mountains, forests, and skies provide countless activities throughout the year for natives and visitors alike. Arizona also enthusiastically hosts spring training, Super Bowls, college football playoff games, and the Waste Management Open, which many call "The Greatest Show on Grass."

Most of all, I love the people of Arizona. Arizonans are diverse, patriotic, and fiercely independent people. They bring so much talent and potential to our communities. I am deeply honored to serve my constituents in Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Sun Lakes, and Queen Creek.

After a long week in Washington, I cannot wait to step off the plane into